



Illinois Aviation



2nd Quarter 2010

ILLINOIS AVIATION CONFERENCE LUNCHEON TO HONOR THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS (WASP)

The 2010 Illinois Aviation Conference will be held on May 18-19 at the **Chicago/Schaumburg Marriott Hotel, 50 N. Martingale Rd in Schaumburg, Illinois**. This annual conference is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Transportation – Division of Aeronautics, the Illinois Aviation Trades Association (IATA) and the Illinois Public Airports Association. The conference will feature guest speakers, programs and displays of interest to airport managers, airport boards, FBO staff and anyone interested in learning more about what is happening with aviation in Illinois today.

The 2010 Illinois Aviation Conference luncheon on May 19th will honor the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), women pilots who flew countless non-combat missions in military aircraft during World War II. On July 2, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the bill granting the WASP Congressional Gold Medals. The ceremony to present the Congressional Medals took place in Washington DC on March 10, 2010. A number of WASP have strong ties to Illinois, being either born and raised here, or living in Illinois for many years. These incredible women will be honored at both the Illinois Aviation Conference luncheon and at the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame banquet on May 19th.

The Conference activities begin on May 18th. An ice-breaker reception with vendors and exhibitors will be held from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM, followed with a Hangar Party sponsored by Northwest Flyers at Schaumburg Airport. Wednesday, May 19th, features

a full day of presentations by industry speakers including Barry Cooper, FAA Great Lakes Regional Administrator, Larrie Dahl, Director of Global Aviation Services for John Deere, Russell Meyer, Chairman Emeritus for Cessna Aircraft Company and Michael France, Director of Regulatory Affairs for NATA.

The IDOT Division of Aeronautics will recognize excellence in aviation at the Conference Awards Luncheon on Wednesday. In addition to honoring the Illinois WASP, awards will be presented to airports that are deemed “best in category” for the year. Luncheon tickets may be purchased separately or as part of the Illinois Aviation Conference Package.

The conference concludes Wednesday evening with the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Banquet. The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame is inducting four new members this year. Their accomplishments are featured in this edition of Illinois Aviation. The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame will also be presenting the “Spirit of Flight” award to the WASP. Hall of Fame banquet tickets may be purchased separately or as part of the Illinois Aviation Conference package.

Full details on the conference are available at the conference website, www.illinoisaviation.org. Contact Mike Lane, Executive Director of IATA, at (217) 528-5230 for tickets to the Illinois Aviation Conference, Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Banquet and the Illinois Aviation Conference Luncheon.





Dr. Shea presents Frank Beagle with a Certificate of Appreciation at the 2010 Ultralight and Sport Plane Seminar

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR SUSAN R. SHEA, Ph.D.



The Illinois Aviation Conference will be held this year in Schaumburg at the Chicago-Schaumburg Marriott. This year, we will honor the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) from Illinois at our Conference Luncheon with a short program and an awards ceremony. These courageous women have been role models for many modern women aviators. The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame will also honor the WASP with the Spirit of Flight award at their evening banquet.

A big event at the Illinois Aviation Conference is the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame banquet. The Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame selection committee consists of members from many different aviation organizations in Illinois. Applications are received each year recommending individuals and groups for induction into the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame selection committee is faced with a difficult task of selecting a few from the many worthy applicants presented for consideration. It is not an easy task to decide who or what organization will be inducted each year.

We truly are fortunate in Illinois to have so many individuals and organizations who have contributed to aviation in our State. This year, four individuals will be inducted into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame. Aviation pioneer William E. Somerville will lead off this year's inductees. In 1908, Mr. Somerville formed the Illinois Aero Construction Company in Coal City,

Illinois to build his aircraft and he developed a 160 acre flying field to test and fly his designs. Many claim that this may have been the first airport ever built. The next inductee for 2010 is Rick Weinberg, who was Chief Flight Instructor at the University of Illinois, Institute of Aviation for many years. Rick was devoted to aviation education and safety, and was a frequent speaker at, and tireless supporter of, many FAA and Division of Aeronautics safety events.

Aviation safety events require the efforts of many tireless volunteers. 2010 inductees William Coons and Arnold Zimmerman; both have a long history of supporting aviation. Mr. Coons was one of the most active safety counselors at northern Illinois safety events for many years. He represented DuPage FSDO at many safety seminars and helped in recruiting other volunteers. Arnold Zimmerman has flown over 1,000 Young Eagles rides, introducing young people to aviation. He also has worked tirelessly on fundraising for several aviation causes, often donating rides in his Breezy.

As we honor the accomplishments of our Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame inductees, we should reflect on the contributions these pilots have made to aviation and to society in general. The WASP, aviation pioneers such as William Somerville, teachers such as Rick Weinberg and volunteers such as William Coons and Arnold Zimmerman are a source of inspiration to us. The achievements of the WASP also serve to remind us that one's ability to achieve and excel is not limited by gender or race.

ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS FOR 2011

Individuals and organizations may be offered for nomination. Nominees should be Illinois based, served aviation over a long period of time and have made a substantial contribution to aviation in the state.

Nomination forms are available online at www.ilavhalloffame.org or by contacting Walt Kessler at (847) 683-2361



SPIRIT OF FLIGHT AWARD

THE WASP OF ILLINOIS



This year's recipient of the Spirit of Flight award goes to the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or as they were known as, WASP. At the height of World War II every available male military pilot was pressed in to combat missions in the European and Pacific theatres. Dangerous non-combat missions stateside remained. Ferrying airplanes, dragging targets and liaison were hardly tasks suited for inexperienced or the faint of heart. This is where the WASP, consisting of many fearless female pilots who left their families, homes and jobs, stepped forward to serve their country and aid the war effort. Many of these courageous women were from Illinois.

At first WASP pilots were restricted to day flights and primary trainers. Things eventually changed and WASP pilots flew first line fighters, bombers and transports. During their 26 month life, out of 25,000 applicants 1,830 were accepted and 1,074 earned their wings.

WASP pilots ferried more than 12,000 aircraft of 76 different types and 38 lost their lives in the process.

WASP pilots served without military benefits and were paid only two thirds as much as male civilian ferry pilots they replaced. In 1947 the new independent Air Force offered commissions to WASP. The 122 who accepted were assigned to administrative and support duties and were not allowed to fly military aircraft. In 1977 Congress passed a bill that recognized WASP as veterans and granted honorable discharges from military service. This year, the WASP were officially recognized by the United States Congress with the Congressional Gold Medal.

Additional information on the WASP is available at the Texas Women's University Wasp archive website www.twu.edu/library/wasp.asp and the Wings Across America website www.wingsacrossamerica.us.

WASP photo reprinted with permission from Wings Across America website

2010 ILLINOIS AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION

It's that time of year when airport construction activity peaks throughout Illinois. Extra care and pre-flight planning are necessary to insure that your destination airport is still available for use. Although checking NOTAMS should always be on your checklist, special emphasis should be made during the airport construction season.

Major runway rehabilitation projects sometimes close entire airports, especially when construction activities occur at the intersection of two runways. Whenever possible, extra efforts are made by the airport management, the consultant, the contractor and the Division to insure minimum impact to the facility.

This summer, be aware that many new construction projects may be under way at Illinois airports. Check for NOTAMS every time you fly.





ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME 2010 INDUCTEES

WILLIAM D. COONS

Pilots throughout northern Illinois who know anything about GPS, World War II drone aircraft, fine aviation art or Ercoupes all know the name Bill Coons.



Bill's interest in aviation began at an early age with an interest in model airplanes and learning Morse Code. He entered the Navy at age of 17 after high school in 1944 and was trained to be a gunner in a Dauntless dive bomber. A bout with scarlet fever changed his path and his life. He was then assigned to

VU7-A, a radio controlled target aircraft squadron. That experience led many years later to the publication of *Shoot Only at the Red Airplane*, a book Bill authored in 2007.

Bill's art work also started at a young age. His pen and ink airplane drawings are prized and sought after by many pilots and aviation enthusiasts. His photographic skills combined with his love of model airplanes led to a job as the official photographer of *Model Airplane News* magazine. His photographs were featured on 23 magazine covers.

Bill started taking flying lessons at age 60 and the Ercoupe became his plane of choice. Bill has been recognized by the Ercoupe Association for his tireless promotion and devotion to keeping Ercoupes flying. An interest in GPS navigation was not far behind and Bill became an expert on the subject. He went on to present many safety seminars on GPS using his Ercoupe as a test bed.

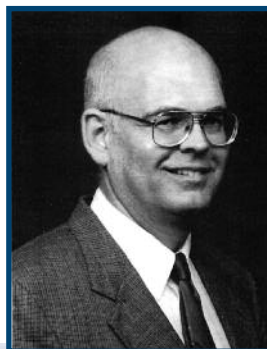
Bill Coons has been recognized by the FAA with many awards including the Great Lakes Region Safety Counselor of the Year. He was also inducted into the FAA Premier Group, an honor shared by only 11 other Aviation Safety Counselors in the country.

Bill's lifelong devotion to aviation and dedication as an Aviation Safety Counselor, qualifies him to join the ranks of notable inductees in the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame.

RICK WEINBERG

Countless pilots in Illinois have benefitted from the teachings and mentorship of Rick

Weinberg. Many have gone on to military, airline and corporate flying careers and each and every one was special to Rick.



Rick Weinberg followed Omer Benn to become the Chief Flight

Instructor at the University of Illinois Institute of Aviation. During his 35 years of flying Rick Weinberg flew over 10,000 hours and gave 6,698 hours of dual instruction. Over 91% of Rick's students passed check rides on the first attempt and 100 % of his multi-engine flight instructor and multi-engine ATP candidates passed on their first attempt.

Rick was never one to say no and as one of the most popular and respected instructors in Illinois, he was a sought after speaker at countless safety seminars. Rick was always the first volunteer CFI to be booked at WINGS weekend, and was for many years the primary speaker for the IFR sessions sponsored by IDOT and the FAA throughout Illinois. He was recognized by IDOT, the FAA and the University of Illinois with numerous awards during his career. These include the Jesse W. Stonecipher Employee of the Year and Flight Instructor of the Year awards. Many are quoted as saying Rick was the finest instructor they had ever met.

Sadly, Rick Weinberg passed away on August 7, 2003 and is missed by the countless pilots he taught and mentored.



ILLINOIS AVIATION HALL OF FAME 2010 INDUCTEES



WILLIAM E. SOMERVILLE

Billie Somerville came to the United States from his birth place in Scotland in 1892 and settled in Coal City, Illinois. He became a successful business man and developed many patents for machinery to manufacture hemp and wire rope at the company he eventually came to own. Billie was elected mayor of Coal City in 1905.



Around 1908, Billie's interests turned to aviation. He flew gliders with Octave Chanute off the sand dunes near Gary,

Indiana. In 1910 he designed and built several airplanes and went on to develop a 160 acre site for an airport and a hangar. Many claim this may well have been the first airport ever built. Billie organized the Illinois Aero Construction Company with some local businessmen to build his airplanes. His designs included a biplane that would carry 7 people and may have been the first tractor type aircraft. His numerous patents and designs included winglets that are found on numerous airplanes flying today.

In 1911, Somerville inaugurated the first city to city airmail service in the United States. George Mestach, a Belgian pilot, flew the mail between New Orleans and Baton Rouge Louisiana. In the summer of 1913 Illinois Aero Construction Company signed a barnstorming contract with the Western Vaudeville Association for the spring and summer of 1914.

Somerville saw his share of failures and setbacks as did many of the early aviation pioneers. After a mysterious fire destroyed his company buildings and airplanes in December of 1913, Billie had to hire another pilot and aircraft to fulfill his contract obligations. Billie, like many others pioneers of the time, was sued for patent infringement by the Wrights and Curtiss.

In 1914, discouraged by the aviation business down turn, Billie Somerville went back to work full time in the wire rope business. He passed away in 1950 at the age of 81.

ARNOLD ZIMMERMAN

Arnold Zimmerman estimates he has given over 12,000 rides in his Breezy in the last



33 years, including many free rides in Oshkosh over the last 20 years. Among those who benefitted from Arnold's generosity was the DuPage Children's Museum. His Breezy ride donations aided in record breaking

contributions to make the museum a reality. Arnold has also flown over 1,000 Young Eagle missions introducing countless young people to aviation.

Arnold received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award for flying over 50 years without an accident. He currently owns a 1946 Aeronca Champ, a Piper Aztec and the Breezy which he built. Arnold was also the recipient of the Phillips 66 Humanitarian Award with Chuck Yeager.

Along with his many other aviation endeavors, Arnold Zimmerman is deeply involved with the development of the Illinois Aviation Museum at Bolingbrook Airport. The museum focuses on educating young people on all aspects of aviation including maintenance, engineering and flying.



BEN TESTON, OWNER OF PINOY CONSTRUCTION AWARDED 2009 DBE CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

The Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) program was designed to foster equal opportunity for minority-owned, woman-owned, and other disadvantaged small businesses engaged in projects utilizing federal funds. At the annual IDOT DBE Conference, Ben Teston, owner of Pinoy Construction, was recognized as the 2009 DBE Contractor of the Year. Mr. Teston has worked on Division of Aeronautics airport projects as a seeding and landscaping subcontractor.



Ben Teston, owner of Pinoy Construction receiving the 2009 DBE Contractor of the Year Award. L-R Phil Silas, IDOT Aeronautics Director Susan Shea, Steven Long, Ben Teston, IDOT Deputy Chief of Staff Marva Boyd, IDOT Director of OBWD Lawrence Parrish and Robert Rice

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2010

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 7:00am – Noon

**16th Annual Charlie Wells Fly-In/Drive-In
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast**

Springfield Capital Airport (SPI), Landmark Aviation
(217) 483-3201 www.WellsScholarship.com

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 8:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1155 Fly-In/Drive-in Breakfast

SRT Aviation Hangar, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport (MVN)
(618) 242-7016 www.mtvernonairport.com

Sunday, May 2, 2010, 7:00am - Noon

EAA Chapter 22 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Courtesy Aircraft Sales Hangar
Chicago Rockford Intl Airport (RFD), Rockford, IL
(815) 229-5112 www.courtesyaircraft.com

Saturday, May 15, 2010, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Illinois Pilots Association & EXPO

Annual Meeting, Fly-In/Drive-In Event - Open to all pilots
DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport (DKB), DeKalb, IL
Bob Frantz (847) 669-3821 www.illinoispilots.com

Sunday, May 16, 2010, 7:00am - Noon

EAA Chapter 682 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Ogle County Airport (C55), Mt. Morris, IL
Glen Orr (815) 732-7268 www.oglecountyairport.com

Sunday, May 16, 2010, 7:00am - Noon

39th Annual EAA Chapter 15 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Lewis University Airport (LOT), Romeoville, IL
Jim Christopher (630) 917-1769

Sunday, May 16, 2010, 7:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1315 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Taylorville Municipal Airport (TAZ), Taylorville, IL
(217) 824-9313

May 18-19, 2010

Illinois Aviation Conference

Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame Banquet (May 19)

Chicago-Schaumburg Marriott, Schaumburg, IL
Mike Lane (217) 528-5230 www.illinoisaviation.org

Saturday, May 22, 2010, 8:00am – 2:00pm

EAA Chapter 274 Fly-In/Drive-In

Pancake Breakfast/Airport Fun Day

Decatur FBO/Decatur Airport (DEC), Decatur, IL
Peggy Haycraft (217) 423-9903

Saturday, May 22, 2010, 11:00am – 3:00pm

Rotors & Wings Aviation

3rd Annual Open House & Fly-In

Hotdogs, sausage, chips, pop & dessert
Greater Kankakee Airport (IKK), Kankakee, IL
www.rotorsandwings.us (815) 939-3575

JUNE 2010

June 2 - 6, 2010

First Annual Biplane & Antique/Classic Fly-In

EAA Chapter 241 Fly-In Breakfast - June 6, 2010
DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport (DKB), DeKalb, IL
Steve Miller (630) 816-8826

Saturday, June 5, 2010, 8:00am – 2:00pm

EAA Chapter 274 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Decatur FBO/Decatur Airport (DEC), Decatur, IL
Peggy Haycraft (217) 423-9903



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 5, 2010, 8:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1155 Fly-In/Drive-in Breakfast

SRT Aviation Hangar, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport (MVN)
(618) 242-7016 www.mtvernonairport.com

Saturday, June 12, 2010, 7:00am

2nd Annual YesterYear

Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast & Lunch

Ogle County Airport (C55), Mt. Morris, IL
Glen Orr (815) 732-7268 www.oglecountyairport.com

Sunday, June 13, 2010, 7:00am – Noon

EAA Chapter 410 Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast

Sterling Rockfalls/Whiteside County Airport (SQL)
Michael A. Dowell (815) 622-3591

Sunday, June 20, 2010, 11:00am – 2:00pm

EAA Chapter 137 Fly-In/Drive-In Pork Chop Lunch

Jacksonville Municipal Airport (IJX), Jacksonville, IL
Jack Stewart (217) 245-1307

Sunday, June 20, 2010, 7:00am – 11:00am

Gen-Air Annual Father's Day Breakfast

Gen-Airpark (3G8), Geneseo, IL
Kent Johnson (309) 944-8126 <http://genair.net>

Sunday, June 20, 2010, 7:00am – Noon

Illinois Valley Flying Club Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Illinois Valley Regional Airport (VYS), Peru, IL
Chuck Studer, Midwest Avtech (815) 223-2003

Sunday, June 20, 2010, 7:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1315 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Taylorville Municipal Airport (TAZ), Taylorville, IL
(217) 824-9313

June 24 - 27, 2010

Wisconsin Powered Parachute Association (WPPA)

9th Annual Fly-In

Marks Park & Airfield (3WN4), New London, WI
1400' Ultralight Field
Gary C. Morris (608) 289-9144 www.wisconsinppa.org

JULY 2010

Saturday, July 3, 2010, 8:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1155 Fly-In/Drive-in Breakfast

SRT Aviation Hangar, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport (MVN)
(618) 242-7016 www.mtvernonairport.com

Sunday, July 4, 2010, 7:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 682 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Ogle County Airport (C55), Mt. Morris, IL
Glen Orr (815) 732-7268

July 9 & 10, 2010

20th Annual WINGS Weekend

Coles County Memorial Airport (MTO), Mattoon, IL
Dale Rust (217) 524-5269 Dale.Rust@illinois.gov

July 9-10-11, 2010

5th Annual Fly-In & Just Plane Fun

Greater Kankakee Airport (IKK), Kankakee, IL
Jim Leon (815) 529-3000 www.theultralightplace.com

July 24 - 25, 2010

Prairie Air Show

Greater Peoria Regional Airport (PIA), Peoria, IL
www.prairieair.org

Sunday, July 25, 2010, 8:00am – 6:00pm

Media/Public Day for Oshkosh DC 3 Staging

Sterling Rockfalls/Whiteside County Airport (SQL)
Michael A. Dowell (815) 622-3591
www.thelasttime.org

July 26 – August 1, 2010

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2010

Wittman Regional Airport (OSH), Oshkosh, WI
www.airventure.org www.eaa.org

AUGUST 2010

Saturday, August 7, 2010, 8:00am – 11:00am

EAA Chapter 1155 Fly-In/Drive-in Breakfast

SRT Aviation Hangar, Mt. Vernon Outland Airport (MVN)
(618) 242-7016 www.mtvernonairport.com

Sunday, August 15, 2010, 11:00am – 2:00pm

EAA Chapter 137 Fly-In/Drive-In Pork Chop Lunch

Jacksonville Municipal Airport (IJX), Jacksonville, IL
Jack Stewart (217) 245-1307

August 20 - 22, 2010

Corn Fest Fly-In/Drive-In Carnival/Music/Food

DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport (DKB), DeKalb, IL
www.cornfest.com

Sunday, August 22, 2010, 7:00am – Noon

Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Poplar Grove Airport (C77), Poplar Grove, IL
www.poplargoairmotive.com (815) 544-3471

Sunday, August 22, 2010, 11:00am – 3:00pm

Fly-In/Drive-In Corn Roast & Pork Chop Lunch

Rochelle Municipal Airport (RPJ), Rochelle, IL
Mark Delhotal (815) 562-8619

Saturday, August 28, 2010

Airshow 10

Coles County Memorial Airport (MTO), Mattoon, IL
Andrew Fearn, (217) 234-7120 www.colescountyairport.com



RULE DEADLINE

FAA PILOT CERTIFICATES MUST BE CONVERTED FROM PAPER TO PLASTIC BY MARCH 31, 2010

Many pilots are unaware of changes to FAR 61.19 regarding paper pilot certificates. **Pilots cannot exercise the privileges of their PAPER pilot certificates after March 31, 2010.**

Pilots can request plastic certificates through the FAA's website www.faa.gov. Click the "Licenses and Certificates" tab, and then look under the "Airmen" column and select "Replace a Certificate". The address to write to is also listed in FAR 61.29. Replacement certificates cost \$2.00.

Pilots are still required to carry photo identification that is acceptable to the FAA administrator when exercising the privileges of a pilot certificate (as outlined in FAR 61.3(a)).

20TH ANNUAL WINGS WEEKEND AT MTO July 9-10, 2010



Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of WINGS Weekend at Coles County Airport (MTO) in Mattoon, Illinois.

Complete a phase of WINGS, enjoy great seminars and stay for the Friday evening dinner and party. Dinner will be followed by a presentation "Iraq from a Cargo Helicopter's Perspective" by Jerry Lay. A Chinook helicopter will also be on display on the ramp. The presentation will be followed by a cake and ice cream social in the Hangar.

Details will be available on www.faasafety.gov in mid-June or contact Dale Rust at (217) 524-5269 or Dale.Rust@Illinois.gov

WINGS Weekend is sponsored by IDOT Division of Aeronautics, FAA Springfield FSDO, Coles County Airport Authority and numerous volunteers.

ILLINOIS AVIATION is published quarterly by the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics. Comments, suggestions and submissions should be directed to Steven J. Long, P.E., Acting Bureau Chief of Aviation Safety, 1 Langhorne Bond Drive, Springfield, IL 62707 or email aero@dot.il.gov.

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Illinois Department of Transportation

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